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MEGHAN C. JOP  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT

## **Wellesley Seeks Individuals to Serve on a New Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force**

**August 16, 2021 (Wellesley, MA)** - The Town of Wellesley is a community that highly values diversity, human dignity, and respect for all individuals. Our community, however, like so many others across the country, continues to experience incidents of discrimination, bias, injustice, and inequity. To demonstrate Wellesley's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and help establish Wellesley as a more welcoming and inclusive town for all individuals, during the past year the Select Board office has worked with an independent consultant to create the Wellesley Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) initiative which will chart a path for the deliberate work needed to be more inclusive and equitable as we make decisions and interact as a community.

To help achieve this goal, Wellesley Executive Director Meghan Jop is establishing a DE&I Task Force and is seeking up to 25 individuals from the community who are interested in serving on this new working group. The intent of this group is to represent all of Wellesley and will include Town officials, thought leaders, faith leaders, individuals with marginalized identities, and others in our community who are passionate about this work. Together participants will work on the following tasks as part of Phase I:

- Create a vision statement for racial equity in Wellesley
- Develop a mission statement for this work
- Develop and identify a framework or work plan that supports the goal of racial equity
- Establish community guiding principles and intentional practices to support anti-bias, nondiscriminatory and anti-racist attitudes and behaviors

If you are aligned with the work described above and are interested in participating in this effort, please complete the [Wellesley DE&I Task Force interest form](#) and provide as much detail as possible. This information will be thoughtfully reviewed and used to form a task force with a broad range of identities, perspectives, and life experiences. Participation is open to residents, non-residents, business owners and employees. Once established, the task force members will determine a meeting schedule to fit the scope of the work. Participation is voluntary; members will not be compensated.

Completed interest forms should be submitted by email to [dei@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:dei@wellesleyma.gov) or delivered to the Select Board office, 3rd Floor, Wellesley Town Hall. The deadline to submit applications is

**Monday, September 13, 2021.** The Town hopes to conduct in-person interviews as interest forms are received and anticipates that all task force members will be selected by early October.

The work of this task force will likely shape a Town of Wellesley standing committee that will continue Wellesley's DE&I mission in the future.

**Learn More**

Additional information on Wellesley's DE&I initiative, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is on the [Select Board office webpages](#) on the Town of Wellesley website.

**Interested?** Please complete the DE&I Task Force interest form <https://forms.gle/PZtXF8yxsfwRKKNs8>

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